

Amendments to the Specification

Please **add** the following **new** paragraph at page 1, line 3:

-- This application claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C. § 365 of International Application PCT/EP03/50232, filed June 17, 2003, which was published in accordance with PCT Article 21(2) on January 8, 2004 in English and which claims the benefit of European patent application No. 02291612.6, filed June 28, 2002.

Field of the invention --

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 9 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- Brief description of the drawings --

Please **replace** the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 21 with the following **rewritten** paragraph:

-- ~~Exemplary embodiments~~ Description of preferred embodiments --